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THE MORNING NEWS

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PAHO's First Conference on Obesity to be Held Here!



50th DIRECTING COUNCIL
62nd SESSION OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE
Washington, D.C., USA, 27 September-1 October 2010



January 2010 file photo shows Minister Visser d with U.S. White House representatives

Members of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), dignitaries and representatives of 21 countries of the American continent – from Canada to Argentina including the Caribbean, are in Aruba this week for the first “Pan American Conference on Obesity.” This conference is held in the prestigious Renaissance Convention Center from June 8th to 11th.

Six ministers of Public

Health from various countries, President of the Chilean Parliament, many top government advisers and executives, the top leadership of PAHO and WHO and a special envoy of the American White House representing First Lady Michelle Obama, are among the many invited guests for this event.

This conference came about as a result of Aruba Minister of Public Health,

Richard Visser's attendance of a meeting of the general assembly of PAHO. Moreover, the insistence of First Lady, Michelle Obama who's “Let's Move” campaign to prevent obesity among children sparked the flames for such a conference. The American government has earmarked substantial funds towards eradicating infantile obesity. It was in this context that Visser recently attended



Minister Visser (3rd I) with WGHO Director of Nutrition Francesco Branca and other Dutch Health officials

a meeting of advisers to Michelle Obama in Washington D.C.

During the meeting here this week there will be a number of experts present representing various important organizations around the world. Among the various representatives will be, the IOC- the International Olympic Committee, the Food and Agriculture Organization, the “Let's Move” movement, Pan American Health Organization, the World Health Organization,

and the International Association Study for Obesity – IASO.

Back in 2003 Richard Visser began investigating the phenomenon of obesity on Aruba.

During this same period he began developing certain health products for children, known as Toddler Health. His research on obesity included such places as Bonaire and Ecuador in addition to the research conducted in Aruba.

Continued on page 5

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TUESDAY AND FRIDAY: LIVE MUSIC

Ninety-six Year Old Woman Confesses to 65 year-old Murder

Feliz Gulje was the head of a construction company who, in 1946, was being considered for a high political post. His murder, along with the lack of an arrest in the crime, caused political party contentiousness. Now, however, the murder has been solved, thanks to the confession of Ridder-Visser.

Henri Lenferink, the mayor of Leiden, said Ridder-Visser confessed to the murder. The reason for the killing, it was revealed, was that Ridder-Visser mistakenly believed Gulje was a Nazi collaborator.

Lenferink said he first learned of the murder on Jan. 1st, when he received a letter from the Ridder-Visser. He conducted two interviews with her and reviewed historical archives to confirm that her story was true.

In fact, while Ridder-Visser

believed Gulje was a Nazi collaborator, exactly the opposite appears to be true. After his death it was revealed that Gulje had sheltered some Jews during World War II, as well as donating money to help hide others with other families. In addition, a banned Catholic association also held secret meetings in Gulje's home.

Atie Visser had been a member of the resistance during the 1940-1945 Nazi occupation. On the night of March 1, 1946, she rang Gulje's doorbell in Leiden, and told his wife that she had a letter to deliver to Gulje. When he came to the door she shot him in the chest. He later died in an ambulance that was transporting him to a hospital.

Lenferink added that Ridder-Visser will not be prosecuted. Although the Netherlands eliminated their prior 18-year statute of limita-

tions for serious crimes in 2006, prosecutors ruled that the change in law would be retroactive in this case.

During the WWII occupation, many Dutch resisted the occupation, but not all did. Some chose or were forced to collaborate with the German occupation force, or even joined the German army. Most who joined were placed in the Waffen-SS.

Others, such as members of the Henneicke Column, were actively involved in capturing hidden Jews for a reward, delivering them to German forces.

One of the most famous of the hidden Dutch Jews was Anne Frank. She lived most of her life in or near Amsterdam, and her diary has become one of the world's most widely read books, and has been the source for several plays and films.

Al Qaeda deputy vows jihad in bin Laden eulogy

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AFP) – Ayman al-Zawahiri, Al-Qaeda's long-time number two, has vowed in a video eulogy to Osama bin Laden that he will pursue his late leader's jihad against the West, SITE Intelligence Group reported on Wednesday.

"We will pursue the jihad until we expel the invaders from Muslim lands," he was quoted as saying in the eulogy to bin Laden who was killed in a US raid in Pakistan on May 2.

"The man who terrified America in his life will continue to terrify it after his

death," he added in the video message titled "The Noble Knight Dismounted," which SITE said was posted on jihadist online forums on Wednesday.

"You will continue to be troubled by his famous vow: You shall not dream of security until we enjoy it and until you depart the Muslims' lands," added the Egyptian militant, who was in white garb and a turban with a machinegun behind him.

In an audio message on May 22, Zawahiri backed the wave of Arab revolts and called for sharia Islamic law to be applied in Egypt.

Morocco probing paedophile claims against French ex-minister

RABAT, Morocco (AFP) - The Moroccan government said Wednesday it had ordered a probe into claims that a French ex-minister had sexually molested boys in Morocco.

Luc Ferry, a French former education minister, claimed in a television interview last week that another ex-cabinet minister had molested boys at a Moroccan orgy and that senior figures covered it up.

"The king's prosecutor in Marrakesh received instructions from the minister of justice to open a thorough investigation," into the affair, Nouzha Skalli, Morocco's social development minister, told AFP.

In the television appearance, Ferry said he had heard about the scandal from "a prime minister" during his own time in office between 2002 and 2004.

He has insisted he has no specific proof that a sex crime took place, but was merely recounting what he had heard during his time in government from other senior French officials.

Skalli insisted there would be "zero tolerance" if the probe found proof that crimes were committed.

Also on Wednesday, the Moroccan rights group Hands off my Child filed a complaint in Paris against unspecified defendants for "sexual exploitation of minors" and failing to report a crime.

French prosecutors had already opened an investigation into the case, leading to Ferry being questioned last Friday for more than an hour in Paris by the police's child protection unit. It was not known whether he had named the alleged sex offender to police.

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Hillary Clinton to visit UAE

WASHINGTON, Hillary Clinton, the Secretary of State of US will visit Abu Dhabi to discuss with countries which are supporting the opposition forces in Libya. She will be looking forward to find out some ways so that the opposition forces in Libya can be helped. Incidentally, the decision of this meeting was taken after US President Barack Obama stated that it's just a matter of time before Moamer Gadhafi, the current Libyan President resigns.

Previously, on 5th May, Clinton and her partners sat for a meeting where the deci-

sion of funding the Libyan rebels was taken. Not only that, but the participants agreed on taping the frozen assets of Gadhafi's regime. Apart from the Libyan crisis, another major discussion subject of the UAE meeting is supposed to be the UN Security Council resolutions implementation.

Off late, NATO has intensified their military attacks in Libya, as the capital Tripoli is being bombed at least a few times each day. Among the 28 member countries of NATO, only 9, incidentally, are taking part in these airstrikes.

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You can surf the web anonymously

In today's world, everybody practically lives in glass houses. There is very little that is really and truly private about us anymore. The birth of the internet made this world even more of a public place. People are tracking other people down with great ease through the use of the internet. The sad part of all of this is that many times the information gathered about people is used to harm them in one way or the other. I am convinced that we should try to protect ourselves as best we can from internet predators. The big question you ask is...is this possible, can we really protect ourselves from harmful predators?

Whenever you surf the web it is possible for people to gather information about you even when you don't want to advertise who you are. This is true even if your system contains protective virus or malware software. Your computer system contains specific information that is easily available online such as your IP address, your country (and often more location information based on your IP address), what computer system you are on, what browser you use, your browser history, and other information. And, believe it or not, it gets worse. People can even get



your computer's name and find out your name if your computer supports programs like finger or identity. Also, cookies can track your habits as you move from computer to computer. Basically, your information can be public domain very shortly and, if I may so say, dangerously.

You may be asking now: How do people get this basic information about me?

When you visit another web site, information about you can be retrieved. Basically, information is intercepted and used by others to track your Internet activities. This is why, you may have noticed, that soon after visiting a particular site, you start getting emails from that site or a related site advertising something or soliciting your membership for some nonsense....and all of this without you ever giving them

any information about you or your email address.

How to prevent or deliberately stop this from happening?

First of all, I have learned that it is possible to surf the web anonymously and thereby stop leaving a trail for others to find. Note that this is not fool-proof, but it makes it much harder for people to know who you are and how to contact you. There are products called anonymous proxy servers that help protect you. The anonymous proxy server replaces your Internet address for its own. This has the effect of hiding your IP address and making it much harder for people to track you.

How to get an anonymous proxy server?

There are many vendors on the internet who sell anonymous proxy servers. There are also free proxy servers available to you. Two such products are ShadowSurf and Guardster. Guardster ([http:// www.guardster.com/](http://www.guardster.com/)) offers various services for anonymous and secure access to the web, some paid as well as a free service. I usually go for the free stuff; they are usually just as good! ShadowSurf (<http://www.shadowsurf.com/>)

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Law regarding Ship Bunkering may reach Parliament before recess!

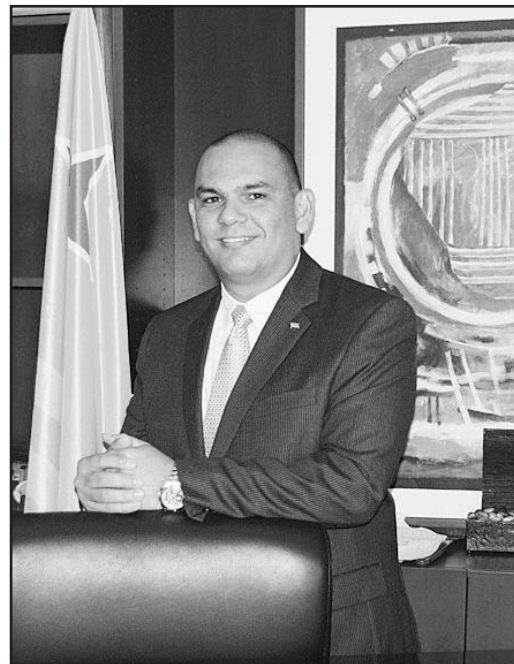
ORANJESTAD -- On Monday, Minister of Tourism, Otmar Oduber, actively responded to questions in Parliament and also presented much information regarding developments taking place under his watch.

The Tourism Minister explained his budget management and what funds he expected to receive from the various departments and projects being executed. One of the projects which is in its final stages is the system for levying fees on ships stationed at the coastal entrance of Aruba.

With respect to the airport, Oduber informed Parliament that there is a difference of opinion with the airport management regarding the facility charge. According to Oduber, a portion of this levy should be earmarked for the government. However, as of 2009 to the present, no money from this fund has been deposited into the government's coffers...this represents an estimated 1.8 million Florins.

Regarding meteorological services, Aruba desires to have her own meteorological system. Plans are in the works for developing a meteorological department. Communication has been sent to Curacao where meteorological services for Aruba are currently being performed as we do not have the necessary equipment here. These services are costing Aruba around Afls.600.000. This amount will be substantially decreased once we are able to set up our own department.

Continued on page 4



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Law regarding Ship...

Continued from page 3

On the registration of aircrafts, Oduber was rather brief. He explained that we have about 85 aircrafts registered here in Aruba. The government is in the process of adapting these laws and making them more attractive and hopefully registering about 200 aircrafts in Aruba.

One of the projects that the government has been working on is that regarding the ships that are stationed at the entrance of our coastal waters. This project falls under the law of bunkering. The law on bunkering is ready and is being studied for advice and approval.

The concept law is expected to reach the Council of Ministers by next week. In view of the importance of this

law, and especially because of what its implementation will mean for the governments coffers, Oduber appealed to members of Parliament to attend to this law with expediency even before the Parliamentary recess.

The law on bunkering entails ship anchoring, bunkering, and transshipment which take place at the entrance of the coast of Aruba in our territorial waters. These activities take place on a regular basis without paying for anything and running high risks of potential contamination. Levying fees for these services will produce an income of 10 to 12 million Aruban florins per year for Aruba, according to Otmar Oduber.

"Gang di Arte" – final week for sign-ups!



During the Youth Gang Art week, our youth has an opportunity to shine and develop their creativity on stage. The Department of Culture has announced that this week is the final week to register for the biggest youth art competition of Aruba: "Gang di Arte."

This year "Gang di Arte" celebrates its first lustrum...5 years! For this reason, the Department of Culture is raising its competition to a new level. This year the winning prize will be geared towards the area of specialization of the winner. The winner will also be the official representative of Gang di Arte at the different activities throughout the year. Gang di Arte has become a well known and much anticipated yearly event offering young people a platform for expression, experimentation and the presentation of their artistic creation to the general public.

This year's theme is illusion. Each young person will

create his/her original piece within the scope of the concept of illusion using their own particular format and truly original creation. Again this year there will be several preparatory workshops to help each young person with their concept and artistic discipline within the scope of the competition.

"Gang di Arte" is in search of talented young people! If you are between 14 to 18 years of age, and have talent, and are creative and active in the area of visual art, video art, dance, DJ, literature, moda, multimedia, music and/or theater...you qualify!

To register or for more information, call Jhon Freddy Montoyo at 565-6903 or send an email to teatroaruba@hotmail.com. Or join Facebook at: Gang di Arte Aruba 2011.

Here are the rules for participation:

1. an individual may participate, or you may prefer to

participate as a group

2. each participant must be between 14 to 18 years of age

3. groups participating may not be more than 5 in the group

4. each person or group may select from the 8 artistic disciplines or modalities

5. the 8 disciplines are: a. dance, b. theater, c. music, d. visual art, e. design, fashion and photography, f. literature/poetry, g. video-art, h. interdisciplinary art.

6. the style or format used may be: modern, contemporary, traditional, vanguard, realism, abstract, etc.

7. fill out the form with your technical data

8. each participant must: a. attend all preparation meetings, all workshops, b. must present a truly original work long enough for a 5 minute presentation, c. each participant must adhere to all rules of participation

You can surf the web anonymously

continued from page 3

ShadowSurf provides anonymous surfing at their site for free. Go to it and you will find a box to enter a URL that you want no one to track. There are many others, but here are two that are frequently used. Another one that I use is Hot Shield, which I find to be excellent.

Another interesting product, given the recent news about the Google search engine filtering its findings for the Chinese government, is Anonymizer (<http://www.anonymizer.com>). This company, among others, recently (Feb 1st, 2006) pressed that it "is developing a new anti-censorship solution that will

enable Chinese citizens to safely access the entire Internet filter-free" (http://www.anonymizer.com/consumer/media/press_releases/02012006.html).

Will you be 100% safe using an anonymous proxy server?

No. None can give you that 100% safety guarantee, simply because the predators don't rest, they continue searching, developing and inventing new ways to get what they want. Still, you are much better off if you use such technology.

What other things should I be concerned about when trying to keep my private infor-

mation private?

Three other items come to mind when trying to keep your information private. First, you can use an encrypted connection to hide your surfing. This article does not go into detail on this, but search the web and you will find a lot of information on this. Secondly, delete cookies after each session. Third, you can configure your browser to remove JavaScript, Java, and active content. This actually leads to limitations, so you need to think about the cost/benefit of this course of action.

Anything else?

Wishing you happy and safe surfing!

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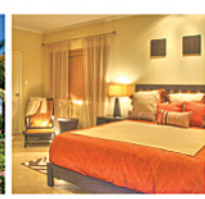
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Lions Club announced their "Shoes for Children" project

250 schoolchildren from 12 primary schools in San Nicolas and surrounding areas will receive stylish and comfortable athletic shoes imported from Holland by the Lions Club of Aruba, for those whose parents could not afford such footwear.

Lions Club President Claret Lopez and the committee in charge of the project greeted the principals of the various schools at their Oranjestad headquarters, for the announcement of the handing over for them to be distributed by the YMCA in San Nicolas and the Centro di Barrio Brazil on Wednesday and Thursday, June 8 and 9 from 2:00 to 5:00 PM.

The project was sponsored by Marcel van Gastel of Bunnies and Brakkies Kids shoes along with Kees van Hartigh, Theo de Veth and Kenneth Theysen for the transportation from the factory in Holland to Aruba. Lions Club members expressed their gratitude to Ferdinand Rashusen of AMC Union in Aruba for his kind assistance on this project and



Lions Club members with school officials and shoes

Tineke den Hoven, who made the connection in Holland that procured the shoes, and is facilitating their distribution. Tineke explained that when contacted regarding this project, Mr. van Gastel was extremely enthusiastic and will to help by providing the quality shoes at a minimal cost.

School principals were set the task of measuring the students' size and singling out recipients in need. Unfortunately, sizes are limited to 42 for girls and 35 for boys, so most receiving the shoes will be children with small feet.

Claret Lopez declared the Lions' Club is very pleased to have been able to expedite

this one-time project for many of Aruba's lesser fortunate youth, and they would consider more such projects island children in need. 500 pairs of shoes of varying styles will be distributed, allowing 2 pairs per child.

by Rosalie Klein

PAHO's First Conference on obesity...

Continued from page 1

Visser's "National Health Plan 2008-2018" was accepted locally and later also by the European Health Association and the World Health Organization.

PAHO's choice of Aruba for the venue of this important conference on obesity will have a definite positive influence on our island and is indicative of our serious commitment to the prevention of obesity.

In Aruba, just as in all other countries, obesity requires national attention and the support of everyone.

Hence the reason the largest countries in this continent are prepared to deal with this matter and to together learn from each other so they can make the necessary changes for the health and well being of their people.

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Nintendo out for all gamers with "Wii U" console



LOS ANGELES (AFP) — Nintendo on Tuesday provided the first glimpse of a second-generation Wii console designed to dispel notions its system is not up to the standards of "hardcore" videogame players.

"Wii U" builds on the Japanese videogame titan's record of hardware innovation with a controller that combines a tablet computer-style touchscreen with toggles and buttons used for blockbuster shooter or action titles.

"The boundaries that once divided players are starting to be erased," Nintendo chief executive Satoru Iwata said as the world got a look at the Wii U at the opening of the Electronic Entertainment Expo in Los Angeles.

"For Nintendo, the goal of innovation is to serve every player."

Nintendo did not reveal how much it planned to charge for the Wii U when the new consoles hit the market next year to battle with Microsoft's Xbox 360 and Sony's PlayStation 3 (PS3).

Major videogame studios such as Ubisoft, Electronic Arts, THQ and Square Enix are already on board crafting titles for the Wii U, according to Nintendo North America president Reggie Fils-Aime.

"It seems Nintendo heard the voices of the hardcore gamers," said Irrational Games studio co-founder Ken Levine, the creative force behind hit action game "BioShock."

A key feature to the Wii U controller is a 6.2-inch (16-centimeter) screen that displays maps or other information to complement game play, acts as a touch-

screen game board and serves as a second monitor.

A forward-facing camera allows for online video chat with friends while playing with or against them online using a television connected to a Wii U.

A THQ game studio executive referred to the new console as the "Swiss Army knife" of consoles.

"You won't have to give up your game play when someone else comes in the room and wants to use the television," Iwata said, referring to the way game action could be continued on a controller's screen.

"This device is designed to appeal to all people, particularly the most dedicated and serious players."

Nintendo is credited with opening the world of videogames to moms, seniors, and other "casual" players with the introduction of motion-sensing controllers on the first Wii console launched in late 2006.

Microsoft and Sony last year challenged Nintendo by adding motion or gesture-based controls to Xbox 360 and PS3 consoles, which boast more power than the Wii for richer imagery and more complex action.

Nintendo will be firing back in the console wars with Wii U, which will power high-definition graphics along with creative new play styles allowed by the tablet-shaped controllers.

Wii U controllers are not designed to be portable gaming devices because play and content are based on wireless connections to consoles, according to Iwata.

Cosmic blasts point to new class of supernova

PARIS (AFP) — Astronomers yesterday reported that six ultra-bright flashes detected in deep space were ancient exploding stars that are a new kind of supernova.

"We have a whole new class of objects that can't be explained by any of the models we've seen before," said Robert Quimby of the California Institute of Technology (Caltech) who led the probe into the strange explosions.

Most supernovae occur when a very massive star runs out of fuel, its core collapses and then explodes, leaving behind a neutron star or a black hole.

There is also a rarer kind in which mass flows from a cooling ageing star called a red star to a "white dwarf," the hot and dense core of an old star, which eventually collapses in on itself and then explodes.

But six supernovae observed by Quimby and his team had none of the chemical signatures of these known supernovae.

The investigation began in 2005, when Quimby spotted a supernova called SN 2005ap that was 100 billion times brighter than the Sun and turned out to be twice as bright as the previous record-holder.

At about the same time, the Hubble Space Telescope found a supernova, also with an odd chemical spectrum, called SCP 06F6.

That sparked the formation of a special team to scan the skies for "transients," as ephemeral flashes are called, but combining the optical power of hefty telescopes in California, Hawaii and the Canary Islands.

Four new objects were added to the supernova net, all with the unusual, hydrogen-less signature. They were found in small galaxies of a few billion stars known as dwarf galaxies.

Reporting in the British science journal Nature, the team say that the new supernovae are extremely hot, reaching temperatures of 20,000 degrees Celsius (36,000 degrees Fahrenheit) and their blastwave travels through space at around 10,000 kilometres (6,000 miles) per second.

Japan's next gizmo: Brainwave-controlled cat ears



TOKYO (AFP) — A team of Japanese inventors have come with a new device that blends the country's fascination with cuteness and its penchant for experimental high-tech -- brainwave-controlled cat ears.

The fluffy headwear reads users' brain activity, meaning the ears perk up when they concentrate and then flop down again to lay flat against the head when users enter a relaxed state of mind, say its developers.

The gizmo is called "Necomimi" -- a play on the Japanese words for cat and ear, but the first two syllables are also short for "neuro communication", says Neurowear, the inventor team whose brainchild it is.

"We were exploring new ways of communicating and

we thought it would be interesting to use brainwaves," said Neurowear's Kana Nakano.

"Because the sensors must be attached to the head, we tried to come up with something cute and catchy."

A promotional video shows a young woman's cat ears perk up as she bites into a doughnut and again when she passes a young man in a park, only to flatten as she apparently brushes off the missed encounter, relaxes and smiles.

The prototype model has been developed in black and white versions with a sensor produced by a Silicon Valley-based partner company.

Neurowear hopes to market the device by the end of the year in Japan and elsewhere. It has not yet set a price.

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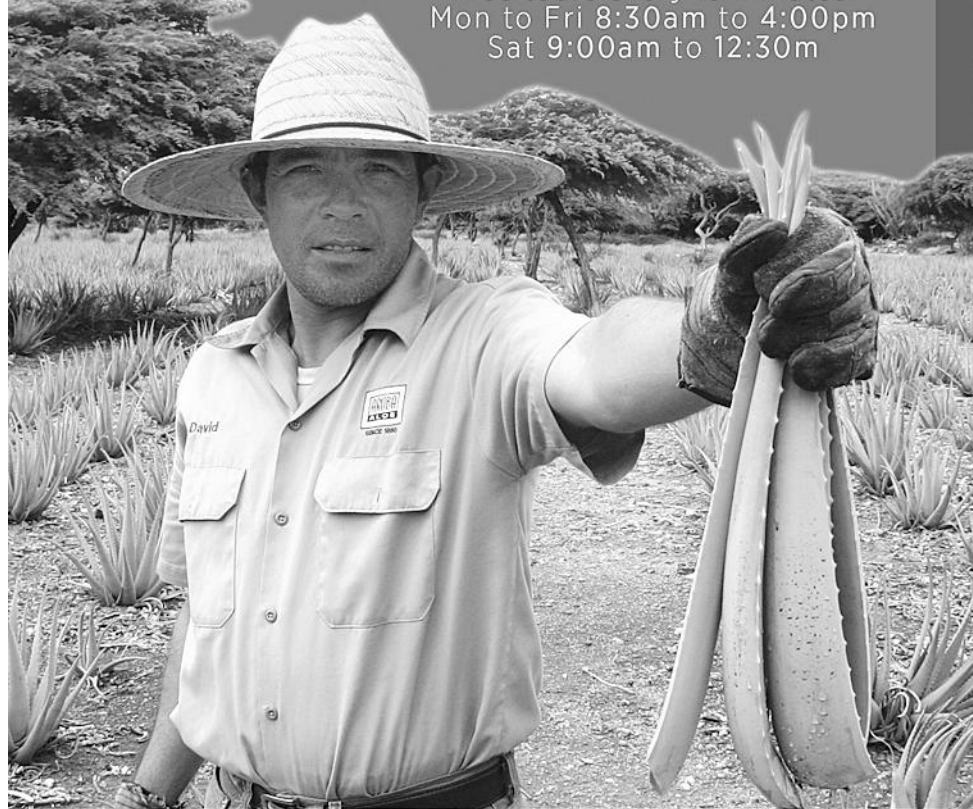
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Stay safe during hot-weather exercise by drinking enough fluids, wearing proper clothing and timing your workout to avoid extreme heat.

How hot weather affects your body

Exercising in hot weather puts extra stress on your heart and lungs. Both the exercise itself and the air temperature increase your body temperature. To dissipate heat, more blood circulates through your skin. This leaves less blood for your muscles, which increases your heart rate. If the humidity

is high, your body faces added stress because sweat doesn't readily evaporate from your skin — which only pushes your body temperature higher.

Under normal conditions, your skin, blood vessels and perspiration level adjust to the heat. But these natural cooling systems may fail if you're exposed to high temperatures and humidity for too long. The result may be a heat-related illness, such as heat cramps, heat exhaustion or heatstroke.

To keep it cool during hot-weather exercise, keep these basic precautions in mind:

- *Take it slow.
- *Drink plenty of fluids
- *Dress appropriately. Lightweight, loosefitting -

light colored clothing promotes sweat evaporation and cooling by letting more air pass over your body.

*Avoid midday sun. Exercise in the morning or evening

*Wear sunscreen if needed

*Have a backup plan. If you're concerned about the heat or humidity, stay indoors. Work out at the gym or a club.

During hot-weather exercise, be on the lookout for heat-related illness. Signs and symptoms may include:

- Weakness
- Headache
- Dizziness
- Muscle cramps
- Nausea or vomiting
- Rapid heartbeat

If you suspect a heat-related illness, stop exercising and get out of the heat. Drink water, and wet and fan your skin. **If you don't feel better within 60 minutes, contact your doctor.**

Regular physical activity is important — but don't let hot-weather workouts put your health at risk.

Germany says worst of E. coli outbreak is over

BERLIN, Germany (AFP) — Germany on Wednesday expressed hope that the "worst" of a killer bacteria outbreak was over as national and European Union health and consumer affairs officials met for urgent talks on the crisis.

"We cannot give the all-clear but based on the evaluation of the data from the Robert Koch Institute (RKI, the national health centre), there is reason for justified optimism that we have the worst behind us at the national level," German Health Minister Daniel Bahr said after the meeting.

Bahr added that Germany, which has seen all but one of the deaths from the lethal strain, would maintain its warning against eating raw tomatoes, lettuce, cucumbers and various sprouts until the cause of the mysterious outbreak was named.

He said it was not certain whether the decline in new cases was linked to consumers avoiding the vegetables that have been blacklisted.

Robert Koch Institute (RKI, the national health centre),

confirmed infections in Germany as 2,648 on Tuesday in the latest count, with 75 percent of cases in the north of the country.

In addition to the 25 deaths in Germany, one woman who had just returned from Germany died in Sweden. But infections have been reported in more than a dozen countries, with symptoms ranging from bloody diarrhoea to, in full-blown cases, kidney failure.

He said that as long as people were still dying, German authorities and their European partners had to zero in on finding its cause.

He said that as long as people were still dying, German authorities and their European partners had to zero in on finding its cause.

Despite widespread testing of foodstuffs, restaurants and farms, authorities to date have been unable to trace the origin of the outbreak.

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Sea Turtle nests are hatching

One of the first Leatherback nests of the 2011 season has hatched after 66 days of incubation. Just before sunset 80 tiny hatchlings left their nest at the Low Rise Hotel area. A big crowd of onlookers witnessed how the small sea turtles scurried to the sea. Already at 3.00 PM a guest of Costa Linda noticed that something was happening in the nest: she saw a dimple that had not been there before and the sand in the indentation was moving every now and then! A phone call was made to the Turtle Hotline and volunteers of Turtugaruba came at once to watch and see, and to explain what was happening. After some time three or four tiny heads appeared in the dimple, they looked like small black stones. It is still rather hot and the hatchlings will wait till the temperature drops a little bit.

And then at six o'clock the first hatchling breaks free from



the nest. The emergence is surprising: all at once the entire group wells up, it looks like a fountain. Within half an hour all tiny hatchlings have gone. They swim just beneath the surface of the sea, because they have to breathe regularly. As fast as they can they swim away from the coast to the

open ocean, where there are less predators (fishes, birds) that will eat them. Just 1 out of 1000 hatchlings will reach maturity and if that one happens to be a female, she will return to the beach where she herself was born to lay her eggs. The first time will be after 20 – 25 years. (that long



it takes for a Leatherback Sea Turtle to reach maturity!)

Also in Parke Arikok the first Leatherback nests have hatched. There are a lot of nests on the beaches at that side of Aruba, but they are not marked by the barricades. It is very important that nobody drives on the beach with quadracers nor 4WD's, because it will damage the eggs. Besides, driving on Aruba's beaches is not allowed and prohibited by Law.

The coming weeks more nests will hatch. If hatching takes place at twilight or after sunset, at night, please do not use any lights and absolutely NO FLASH photography. Hatchlings are disoriented by

artificial lights and will not find the sea anymore. Do not touch the hatchlings. They have to make their own way to the sea in order to remember the location of their native beach at adulthood.

To report any turtle activity, please call Turtle Hotline 5929393.

Info: turtugaruba@hotmail.com



Successful musical presentation by "Scol di Musica Rufo Wever" students



In the last week of May 2011, the music school of Aruba "Scol di Musica Rufo Wever" once again organized a week of exams for the students. This is the 9th exam for this year. Music students from Catherine Provence-Hanrath, Johnny Croes, Franklin Granadillo and Rob Rijnbout presented themselves before an invited audience. It has been a fruitful week for the students, the audience and the teachers.

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1. Actor Blocker
4. Harry Belafonte's daughter
9. Augusta's locale
11. Some shower gifts
13. Not as bright
14. Unimpaired
15. Refs' kin
16. Comedian Foxx
18. Knighted man's title
19. Hasten
20. Give a darn
21. By ____ (from memory)
22. Sings like Sinatra
24. Extend a subscription
25. Actor Beatty
26. Farming implement
27. Side dish
30. Place-setter's need
33. The fat ____ the fire (2 wds.)
34. Vineyard product
35. Thumbs-down vote
37. Soldiers, for short

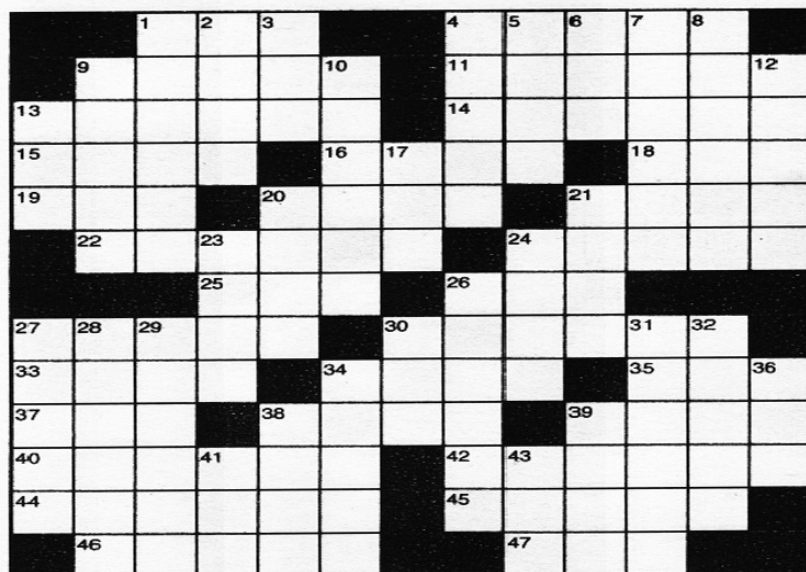
DOWN

38. 11th president
39. Latin poet
40. Derby maker
42. Internet messages (hyph.)
44. Curls the lip
45. Log floats
46. Serpent
47. Half a fly
1. Wetter
2. Points (at)
3. SSW's opp.
4. Avalanche
5. Back
6. Toiling insect
7. Think logically
8. Stir up
9. Rich Little, for one
10. Routine trip
12. Scatter around
13. Teen's retort
17. Vocal pauses
20. Mixed by gender
21. Make a stink
23. "____ Island with You" (2 wds.)
24. Wrangler's need
26. Long (for)
27. Soft moans
28. Thailand natives, e.g.
29. Pay attention
30. Nothing

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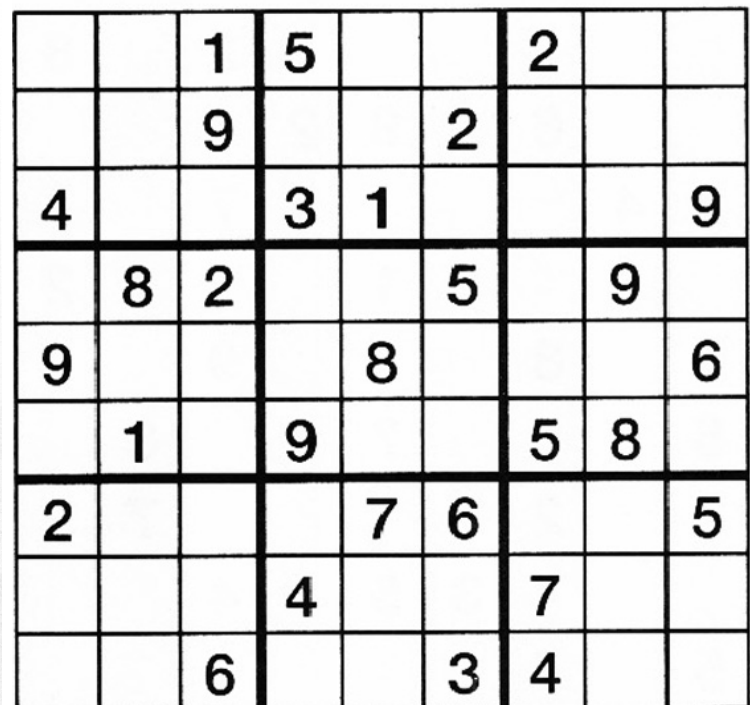
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| 6 | 9 | 9 | 8 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 7 | 4 |
| 7 | 1 | 8 | 2 | 9 | 1 | 6 | 3 | 5 |
| 3 | 2 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 1 | 9 | 8 | 4 |

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9
A number is Never repeated in a row or column.
In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9

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Finance

ExxonMobil makes big oil find in Gulf of Mexico

NEW YORK, (AFP) - Exxon-Mobil said Wednesday it had made one of the biggest oil discoveries in years in the Gulf of Mexico in its first drilling since the US lifted a deepwater exploration ban in October.

The US energy giant called the find "one of the largest oil discoveries in the Gulf of Mexico in the last decade,"

with a potential for more than 700 million barrels of recoverable oil-equivalent.

ExxonMobil's recent drilling netted in total two "major" oil discoveries and one gas discovery in the Gulf, the world's largest oil company said.

The drilling was in Keathley Canyon, located about 400 kilometers (250 miles) south-

west of New Orleans, Louisiana, at a depth of 2,100 meters (7,000 feet).

The United States banned deepwater drilling in the Gulf after the April 2010 explosion on the BP-leased Deepwater Horizon platform.

The US imposed tough new safety conditions on operators and lifted the drilling moratorium on October 12.

Divided OPEC maintains oil output level

VIENNA, Austria (AFP) - OPEC left its oil output target unchanged Wednesday, a decision that sent crude prices shooting higher on global markets and exposed deep divisions in the cartel amid calls for a hike in quotas.

Traders had speculated that the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries would boost production to help cool high oil prices and in turn revive flagging economic growth.

"Unfortunately we are unable to reach a consensus this time to reduce or raise our production," OPEC Secretary General Abdullah El-Badri said after the meeting.

OPEC, which has a dozen member countries, kept its official output target at 24.84 million barrels per day (mbpd), where it has stood since January 2009.

However, the cartel is unofficially pumping above this level to compensate for OPEC member Libya, whose oil supplies have been ravaged by violent unrest since February. A Libyan representative also attended Wednesday's meeting.

Saudi Arabian Oil Minister Ali al-Naimi, speaking to reporters after the decision, said it was "one of the worst meetings we ever had."

"We were not able to reach an agreement," added Naimi, who confirmed that the Gulf nations of Saudi, Kuwait, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates had proposed an increase of 1.5 million barrels per day.

"That means we are suggesting production of 30.3 million barrels a day," he

said, adding that Algeria, Angola, Venezuela, Iraq, Iran and Libya had rejected such a move.

OPEC kingpin Saudi Arabia is the world's biggest oil supplier and traditionally the most influential member of the cartel.

Following the latest OPEC decision, Brent oil prices shot up \$1.62 to \$118.40 a barrel in London trade and New York's light sweet crude climbed \$1.75 to \$100.84.

The next meeting will be in mid-December in Vienna to reassess the oil market situation, he added.

"At the end of that period, we can make the appropriate decision but this decision (to maintain output quotas) was unfortunately not welcomed by certain members," El-Badri said.

Some OPEC members are worried that the oil market will tighten in the coming months -- as seasonal demand hits a peak in the northern hemisphere summer -- pushing oil prices even higher.

Oil prices rise after OPEC holds output steady



NEW YORK, (AFP) - Oil prices rallied Wednesday after OPEC decided to leave output unchanged, dashing speculation the cartel would raise production to rein in high prices that are weighing global on economic growth.

New York's main contract, light sweet crude for delivery

in July, closed at \$100.74 a barrel, a rise of \$1.65 from Tuesday.

In London, Brent North Sea crude for July climbed \$1.07 to settle at \$117.85 a barrel.

The 12-nation Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries announced after a meeting in Vienna that it would maintain its official output target at 24.84 million barrels per day (bpd), where it has stood since January 2009.

The New York futures contract, which had fallen in opening trade, shot up on the

announcement.

"The market was expecting an increase of the production quota figures or an actual increase on production and what we got was no action on either front," said Andy Lipow at Lipow Oil Associates.

"It appears that there is a bit of acrimony within the OPEC member countries because they were not able to agree on production levels going forward," he added.

Saudi Arabian Oil Minister Ali al-Naimi said it was "one of the worst meetings" ever staged by OPEC because member nations were divided.

"The failure to agree on increases in either quotas or output risks leaving the global oil market dangerously short of crude during the period of strengthening seasonal demand over the coming half-year," said Nic Brown at Natixis.

OPEC, which pumps 40 percent of global oil supply, is expected to maintain the current quota ceilings until its next meeting in December.

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Fiesta di San Juan y Dera Gai

Fiesta di San Juan y Dera Gai is an Aruban tradition celebrated every year on June 24. History tells that San Juan festivities originated on the South part of Mexico and came down to Guatemala and other countries in Central America reaching Venezuela and passed down to Aruba.

It is a custom brought by the missionaries who evangelized the villages, by introducing a tradition for the remembrance to the sacrifice of apostle San Juan Bautista, who according to the Biblical history was decapitated by order of King Herodes, since he liked princess Salomé.

When the Spanish ruled the island, they brought a couple of missionaries to educate the locals about Christianity. The place they started to preach is where the Alto Vista Chapel is situated now. The first 2 missionaries are still to be found buried on the right front side of the chapel entrance. The missionaries allowed the natives by then to preserve some of their pagan celebrations like Dera Gai, Dande and the Carnival. That is why they combined the harvesting celebration with Saint John day.

Aruba celebrates San Juan in a unique way. San Juan festivities in the early times had to do more with superstition. Mainly because the natives believed in spirits and several Gods, and they were very afraid of them. In order to be in the good grace of the Gods and spirits, they had to make several offerings. One of these was for the harvest. The purpose of the festival of harvest was to thank the many Gods for the good harvest year and to request them to bless the harvests for the following year.

In early times cunukeronan (coo-noo-ker-o-nan, Aruban farmers) after harvesting, they stored the trunks of the several plants like corn and other types of wood, so that they could be burned on San Juan (Saint John's Day). The farmers would then burn the woods, on the night before San Juan as well as throughout the day. Fire means purification and it scares away bad luck resulting in a better harvest the following year.

During the festivities, there were several games like jumping over fire, typical dances, singing, stories and joked being told, all this done around the fire. This festivity was something big in Aruba - it was a holiday. In the past, on June 23rd workers were given the afternoon off and the June 24 the whole day. The festivities start when the night arrives on



San Juan's Eve.

The tradition to bury a living rooster (dera = bury and gai = rooster) was very common in those days. Nowadays it is obviously unthinkable to



do such a thing.

Every town had its own festivity. The most important dance was where a rooster is buried leaving only its head

San Juan, they expanded the tradition, where now men named Juan have preference over the others. The man is spun around so that he gets disoriented and no longer knows the exact location of the rooster. Then with a corn stick, he has to hit the rooster's head. He has 3 chances, and if he misses another man is given the opportunity. An experienced dancer is guided by the wind and uses his foot to feel the ground in search of the rooster, because as a rule you are not to feel the ground with the stick.

During these festivities, women are dressed with long yellow dresses and yellow hair holders dancing in a choreographed manner. The musicians are dressed in yellow or red with a colorful band tightened on their hips. The instruments used consist mostly of drums and other noisemaker devices. While the music plays, the dancer has to hit the rooster, but the stick is not to touch the ground, or he loses his turn. This is done to sym-



above the ground. Over the years this has been replaced with a calabash gourd, and nowadays a synthetic rooster is placed above the ground. A man is then selected from the crowd and is blindfolded. He is then asked to kill the rooster by hitting its head real hard with a stick.

After the incorporation of

bolize the three times the rooster sang when Saint Peter lied about not knowing Jesus, according to the bible.

Up to this day, Dera Gai is still celebrated in every town. Needless to say that the fire department has their hands very full putting out some of the fires that get out of hand ...

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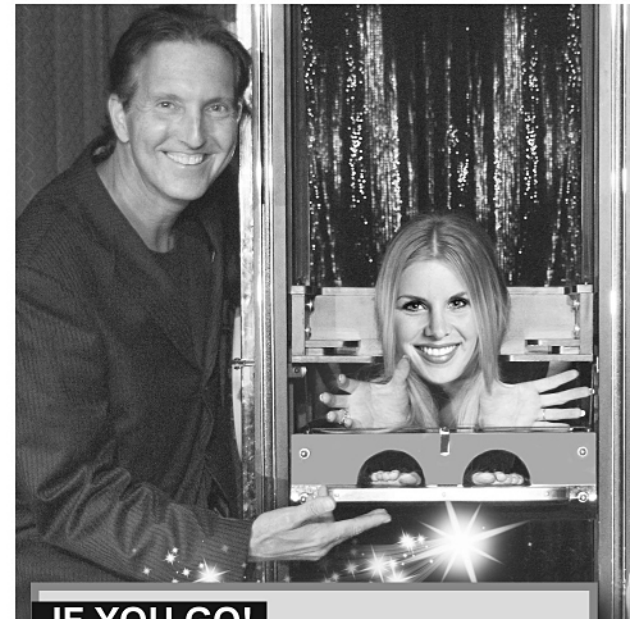
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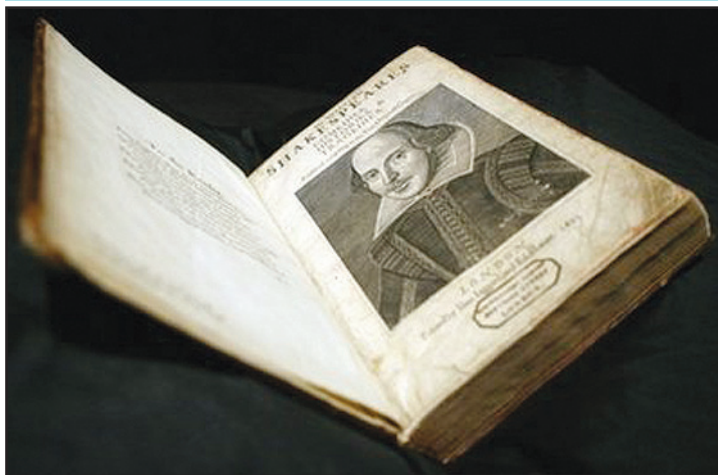
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Shakespeare's relative may have inspired Ophelia



A folio edition of William Shakespeares' plays is seen at Sotheby's auction house in London.

LONDON, England (AFP) — The death of William Shakespeare's relative may have provided the inspiration for tragic heroine Ophelia, the doomed object of Hamlet's love, Oxford University researchers claimed Wednesday.

Coroner's reports of accidental deaths in Tudor England showed that a Jane Shaxspere drowned aged two-and-a-half while picking corn marigolds 20 miles (32 kilometres) from Shakespeare's Stratford-upon-Avon home,

researchers found.

In Shakespeare's classic, Ophelia drowns in a brook after hanging flowers in a willow tree. The poetic moment is famously captured in John Everett Millais's 1852 painting.

The Bard would have been five at the time of Jane Shaxspere's 1569 death, and the Oxford team believe the two children may have been related.

"It was quite a surprise to find Jane Shaxspere's entry in

the coroners' reports," Steven Gunn of Oxford University's Faculty of History said.

"It might just be a coincidence, but the links to Ophelia are certainly tantalising," he added.

The coroner recorded a verdict of 'misfortune' on Jane's death.

Emma Smith, of Oxford's Faculty of English Language and Literature, agreed the incident could be behind one of literature's most poignant scenes.

"Even if Jane Shaxspere were not related to the playwright, the echo of their names might well have meant this story stuck in his mind," she argued.

"It's a good reminder that, while Shakespeare's plays draw on well-attested literary sources, they also often have their roots in gossip, the mundane, and the domestic detail of everyday life.

"It's interesting to think of Ophelia combining classical and Renaissance antecedents with the local tragedy of a drowned girl," she added.

Bin cameras encourage students to recycle

LONDON, England (AFP) — University students are being encouraged to change their ways and recycle through a project in which tiny cameras are fitted into bins.

Scientists at Newcastle University, in northeast England, said Wednesday that the "BinCams" had been placed in kitchen bins in five households.

The tiny sensor, attached to a camera phone, takes a picture every time the bin lid slams shut and uploads the image onto Facebook, allowing the students to monitor what they are throwing away.

The Facebook page adds an element of competition, allowing the student households to compare how their recycling efforts are going.

The project targets students because research has shown that people aged between 18 and 34 recycle less than other age groups.

Scientists said initial results indicated the experiment was a success. Early images showed pizza boxes, beer cans and other rubbish that could have been recycled, they said.

But after two weeks, the experiment showed that the bin is emptied less frequently as less rubbish is thrown away and more is recycled.

"The students said they felt like the bin was watching them and that it definitely made them think twice about what they were throwing away," said Anja Thieme, a postgraduate computer science student who is leading the project.

"By taking a photograph and uploading it to Facebook, the idea is that we create a platform for self-reflection -- a permanent reminder. It's a bit like having your conscience sat on your shoulder niggling away at you."



Murray survives tough test to make winning start



Scotland's Andy Murray returns a shot during his match against Belgium's Xavier Malisse

LONDON, England (AFP) – Andy Murray made a winning start to his grass-court campaign as the world number four defeated Belgium's Xavier Malisse 6-3, 5-7, 6-3 in the second round at Queen's on Wednesday.

Murray, seeded second, arrived in London after sustaining an ankle ligament injury during his run to the French Open semi-finals that briefly threatened his participation in a tournament he won in 2009. But with the start of his home Grand Slam at Wimbledon just 11 days away, Murray, who was given a first-round bye, will be encouraged that he was able to last the distance in a tough test against the experienced Malisse.

Although this was hardly a vintage display from the British number one, he had no obvious problems with his ankle and showed plenty of spirit to set up a clash with Serbian 14th seed Janko Tipsarevic.

"It was tricky. The court is very slow for a grass court," Murray said.

"I had a little chance at the end of the second set, didn't take it and he got back into it and started playing better.

"But I managed to turn it around in the end and I moved pretty well considering it was the first match. It's good to get through.

"The ankle was all right. It was a little bit sore at times but it's getting better every day."

Australian Open finalist Murray had spent the previous three days practising at Queen's to test out his ankle and reacquaint himself with the unique demands of playing on grass after his clay-court campaign ended in a defeat by Rafael Nadal at Roland Garros.

It was clearly time well spent as the 24-year-old Scot took control with a break in Malisse's first service game.

Despite wearing a strapping on the ankle, Murray was moving well enough and some wayward ground-strokes from Malisse allowed him to build a 3-1 lead before a brief rain delay.

Murray had to save two break points following the resumption and after that fright he swiftly finished off the set.

However, Murray found it much harder to take control in the second.

He finally raised the tempo at 5-5 and amassed three break points, only to see world number 40 Malisse save them all.

Murray's failure to convert those chances seemed to rattle him and a succession of unforced errors in the next game presented Malisse with two set points and the Belgian took the second to level the match.

Malisse -- a Wimbledon semi-finalist in 2002 -- and partner Ken Skupski had beaten Murray and his brother

Jamie in the doubles on Tuesday.

But Murray ensured there would be no repeat as, aided by a pair of wild forehands from Malisse, he broke for a 2-1 lead at the start of the final set.

He had to save two break points at 3-2 and that was Malisse's last chance as Murray served out the match.

Next up for Murray is the talented but erratic Tipsarevic, who defeated American Michael Russell 7-6, 7-6.

Elsewhere in the second round, South African 15th seed Kevin Anderson set up a third-round clash with four-time champion Andy Roddick after a 6-2, 6-4 win against American youngster Donald Young.

Croatian eighth seed Marin Cilic eased through to the last 16 with a 6-4, 6-4 win against French qualifier Arnaud Clement.

Clement, 33, had won their last grass-court meeting at Wimbledon in 2008, but Cilic was always on top this time as he saw off the oldest man in the draw in convincing fashion.



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BERLIN (AFP) – German champions Borussia Dortmund have insisted Japan star Shinji Kagawa is not for sale, despite reports he is on the radar of Premier League giants Manchester United. According to reports in the Japanese media, Sir Alex Ferguson's United are planning to send scouts to follow the 22-year-old attacking midfielder at Dortmund games next season. But Borussia insist Kagawa will be back in the Bundesliga next season following a four-month lay-off with a broken foot suffered in January's Asian Cup.

Sprinter Bolt happy to be back running



Usain Bolt, double world and Olympic sprint champion

OSLO, Norway (AFP) – It's been 13 long months, but Usain Bolt will finally get a chance to run in his favourite discipline, the 200m, today Bislett Games here.

Jamaica's double world and Olympic sprint champion last ran the 200m, in which he also holds the world record of 19.19 seconds, in the Shanghai Diamond League meeting in May 2010.

But an enforced lay-off has seen him miss out on competing in the event, and this season the 24-year-old has run just

twice in competition, both times winning over 100m.

"It's been over one year and a month since I last ran a 200m," Bolt said Wednesday, although he did race a 300m race a few days after his Shanghai outing.

Bolt played down reports that he has been lacking form, but admitted that he needed to get his act together.

"I really need to get into shape as soon as possible because everyone's putting their foot down because it's a World Championships year," he said in reference to the two-yearly champs scheduled this season for August 27-September 4 in Daegu, South Korea.

Bolt acknowledged that the years spent training for the 200m as a junior had given him an engrained love of the event.

"The 200m will always be my favourite event. I've been doing it for years and it's lodged in my brain. Over the years, I've worked hard to perfect this race.

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US, Panama make triumphant Gold Cup starts

DETROIT, Michigan (AFP) – Host United States began the Gold Cup with a 2-0 victory over Canada on Tuesday while Panama edged Guadeloupe 3-2 in the other Group C opener in the biennial North American football tournament.

Jozy Altidore scored in the 14th minute and Fulham striker Clint Dempsey added an insurance goal for the

Americans in the 62nd minute off a centering pass from Alitidore.

The Americans, who bounced back three days after being blanked 4-0 by 2010 World Cup champion Spain in a friendly, have never lost an opening-round match in the continental championship event.

Panama took the lead on Blas Perez's goal in the 29th minute and doubled the margin two minutes later thanks to Luis Tejada.

A red card on Guadeloupe's Michael Tacalfred for a foul on Luis Henriquez added to the Caribbean side's woes and Gabriel Gomez made it worse by blasting in a penalty kick in the 57th minute.

But the "Gwada Boys" battled back, second-half substitute Brice Gabriel Jovial scoring in the 65th and 78th minutes for short-handed Guadeloupe.

Group C round-robin matches resume on Saturday at Tampa when Canada will face Guadeloupe and the Americans will meet Panama.

Mavericks claw way back to level NBA finals



DALLAS, Texas (AFP) – Dirk Nowitzki finished with 21 points and the Dallas reserves provided plenty of scoring support as the Mavericks rallied to beat the Miami Heat 86-83 to level the NBA finals at 2-2.

Forward Shawn Marion scored 16 points and Tyson Chandler finished with 13 points and 16 rebounds for

the Mavericks, who came back from a nine-point deficit in the fourth in another tight-scoring contest in which the lead changed hands 12 times on Tuesday.

Nowitzki, who also had 11 rebounds, had been carrying the load for the Mavericks in the series and for a change he got some help from his teammates down the stretch in

front of a crowd of 20,430 at the American Airlines Center.

Nowitzki, who also had 11 rebounds, said was battling a sinus infection and fever earlier on Tuesday.

"It didn't look good there in the fourth quarter when we were down nine, but energy and defense really picked us up," Nowitzki said. "I had some good looks there in the fourth. Our defense grinded it out."

The Mavericks' defense swarmed Miami's big three of LeBron James, Dwyane Wade and Chris Bosh holding the Heat to just five field goals in the fourth leaving the 2011 finals now a best-of-three series.

Game five is today in Dallas before the series switches back to Miami for game six on Sunday.

This year's final is a rematch of the 2006 NBA championship series that Miami took in six games for its first title in franchise history. Dallas has never won the NBA title in its 31-year history.

MLB Standings

American League

| East | W | L | Pct | GB |
|------------|----|----|------|-----|
| NY YANKEES | 33 | 24 | .579 | -- |
| BOSTON | 33 | 26 | .559 | 1.0 |
| TAMPA | 30 | 29 | .508 | 4.0 |
| TORONTO | 30 | 29 | .508 | 4.0 |
| BALTIMORE | 26 | 31 | .456 | 7.0 |

Central

| | | | | |
|-----------|----|----|------|------|
| CLEVELAND | 33 | 24 | .579 | -- |
| DETROIT | 31 | 27 | .534 | 2.5 |
| CHICAGO | 28 | 33 | .459 | 7.0 |
| KANSAS | 25 | 34 | .424 | 9.0 |
| MINNESOTA | 21 | 37 | .362 | 12.5 |

West

| | | | | |
|------------|----|----|------|-----|
| TEXAS | 34 | 26 | .567 | -- |
| SEATTLE | 31 | 28 | .525 | 2.5 |
| LA ANGELES | 30 | 31 | .492 | 4.5 |
| OAKLAND | 27 | 33 | .450 | 7.0 |

National League

East

| | | | | |
|--------------|----|----|------|-----|
| PHILADELPHIA | 35 | 24 | .593 | -- |
| FLORIDA | 31 | 26 | .544 | 3.0 |
| ATLANTA | 32 | 28 | .533 | 3.5 |
| NY METS | 28 | 31 | .475 | 7.0 |
| WASHINGTON | 26 | 33 | .441 | 9.0 |

Central

| | | | | |
|------------|----|----|------|------|
| ST. LOUIS | 36 | 25 | .590 | -- |
| MILWAUKEE | 33 | 26 | .559 | 2.0 |
| CINCINNATI | 30 | 30 | .500 | 5.5 |
| PITTSBURG | 28 | 30 | .483 | 6.5 |
| CHICAGO | 23 | 34 | .404 | 11.0 |
| HOUSTON | 23 | 37 | .383 | 12.5 |

West

| | | | | |
|---------------|----|----|------|-----|
| SAN FRANCISCO | 33 | 26 | .559 | -- |
| ARIZONA | 33 | 27 | .550 | 0.5 |
| LA DODGERS | 28 | 32 | .467 | 5.5 |
| COLORADO | 27 | 31 | .466 | 5.5 |
| SAN DIEGO | 27 | 33 | .450 | 6.5 |

Animal Kingdom the Belmont favorite

NEW YORK (AFP) - Kentucky Derby winner Animal Kingdom drew the ninth post and was installed as the early 2-1 favourite for Saturday's Belmont Stakes, the final leg of US flat racing's Triple Crown.

Kentucky Derby runner-up Nehro was made the second choice at 4-1 on Wednesday, with Preakness winner Shackleford the third favourite priced at 9-2 when a field of 12 horses were entered.

Saturday's race will mark the first time since 2005 that the Kentucky Derby and

Preakness winners have lined up for the 1 1/2-mile Belmont.

John Velazquez will be aboard Animal Kingdom. The colt, trained by Graham Motion, will try to become the 12th to win both the Kentucky Derby and the Belmont and the first to do so since Thunder Gulch in 1995.

"It doesn't change anything for us," Motion said of the number nine post position. "I don't think it's going to take him out of his game."

Shackleford, with jockey Jesus Castanon aboard, will try to become the first horse

to win the Belmont from the outside number 12 slot.

The colt saddled by Dale Romans also is attempting to become the 22nd to win both the Preakness and Belmont.

The Belmont is the longest of the Triple Crown races, and post position usually isn't thought to be as key as in the Kentucky Derby and Preakness.

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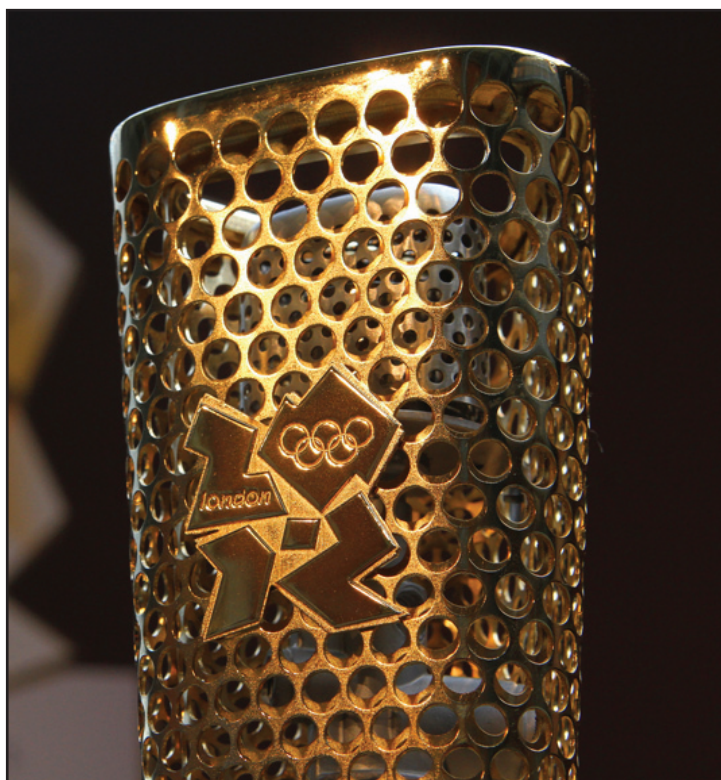
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2012 torch design revealed



LONDON (AFP) - The 2012 London Olympics organisers unveiled Wednesday the golden torch that thousands of runners will use to carry the Olympic flame 8,000 miles (13,000 kilometres) to the opening ceremony.

The flame will burn from a triangular aluminium tube made of a mesh stamped with 8,000 holes -- one to represent each torchbearer.

The torch's shape symbol-

ises the three times that London has staged the Games, in 1908, 1948 and 2012.

The torch, unveiled at London's Saint Pancras train station, has been created by designers Edward Barber and Jay Osgerby.

London 2012 chairman Sebastian Coe said: "The torch that carries the Olympic flame during the Olympic torch relay is one of the most recognisable and significant

symbols of an Olympic Games.

"Members of the public right across the UK are busy nominating inspiring people to be torchbearers and I am thrilled we have a beautifully-designed, engineered and crafted torch for them to carry.

"Integral to the design are the 8,000 circles, a lasting representation of the torchbearer stories of personal achievement or contribution to their local community that will be showcased with every step of the relay."

The torch's journey will start in Land's End, the south-westerly tip of mainland Britain, and travel as far as the outer reaches of Scotland.

The flame will arrive from Greece on May 18, 2012 and the relay will continue for 70 days until the opening ceremony of the Games on July 27, 2012.

Organisers want many of the torchbearers to be aged 12 to 24.

There will be no international relay after the chaos caused by human rights protesters demonstrating against China's hosting of the 2008 Games, although the relay may incorporate a stop in Dublin.

Ronaldo plays last game for Brazil



SAO PAULO (AFP) - Former world footballer of the year Ronaldo ended his international career here yesterday with a 15-minute appearance as a substitute in Brazil's 1-0 win over Romania in a friendly match.

Ronaldo announced his retirement in February citing recurring injury and health problems.

During a glittering 14-year spell in Europe, Ronaldo scored goals at a prolific rate for PSV Eindhoven, Barcelona, Inter Milan, Real Madrid and AC Milan, before

returning to Brazil in 2009.

He won the World Cup with Brazil as a youngster in 1994 and then in 2002 and became the leading scorer in World Cup finals tournaments when he scored his 15th goal at the 2006 tournament in Germany.

He was twice named European Footballer of the Year, in 1997 and 2002, FIFA world footballer of the year in 1996, 1997 and 2002 and finished his international career with 62 goals in 97 appearances.

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UEFA brush off Euro 2012 jitters



WARSAW (AFP) - UEFA on Wednesday brushed off persistent concerns about the ability of hosts Poland and Ukraine to be ready in time for Euro 2012, as the two nations battle to beat the doubters.

"There have been a few hiccups," Gianni Infantino, secretary general of European football's governing body, said in the Polish capital Warsaw.

"But let me say clearly, a few delays in the development of the facilities have certainly not altered our faith in this project," Infantino said at a ceremony marking a year until the European Championships kick off in Warsaw on June 8, 2012.

"We at UEFA know that Poland will be ready, that Ukraine will be ready. We have absolutely no doubt about that," he added.

Infrastructure has been in the doomsayers' sights ever since 2007, when UEFA picked Poland and Ukraine to

host the 16-nation tournament ahead of favourites Italy.

It will be the first edition of European football's showcase event to take place behind the former Iron Curtain.

Poland, and to a greater extent, Ukraine, face challenges well beyond those of West European nations that have held previous tournaments.

In 2008, UEFA issued a fiercely critical report on the hosts' readiness, and they have struggled to shake off their tarnished image.

"The first reports of UEFA were indeed red -- and even dark red -- and now there are just a few red points," underlined Infantino.

"We can say that today, they are probably at 80 percent, both Poland and Ukraine," he added.

In Poland, delays to the stadium-construction timetable have been front-page news for weeks.

The first of its four Euro 2012 stadiums, in the western city of Poznan, opened last September.

But the Poles were forced to make an embarrassing switch of this Thursday's friendly against France from the Baltic port of Gdansk to a club ground in Warsaw.

"Three stadiums will maybe be a couple of weeks late compared to plans. But we still have one year to go, and we're really confident," Infantino said.

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